



**CITY OF GREENSBORO  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SUSPENSION OF FLUORIDE IN GREENSBORO WATER**  
***Cities Across U.S. Affected by Nationwide Shortage***

**GREENSBORO, NC (September 29, 2005)** – Due to a nationwide shortage in the supply of fluoride, Greensboro has temporarily suspended its practice of adding fluoride to drinking water. The national shortage is the combined result of increased demand from the state of California, which recently began fluoridating its water, and withdrawal from the market of major manufacturer U.S. Agrichemicals of Florida, one of only three fluoride producers in the country.

Fluoride is not used to treat drinking water and has no effect on water quality, but is added to help prevent tooth decay. A temporary - two to three month - disruption of fluoride in the water supply should not noticeably impact dental health. Concerned residents should contact their doctor or dentist about the possibility of using fluoride supplements.

Greensboro ran out of fluoride in early September. City water officials have contacted various fluoride suppliers in recent weeks; however none have been able to provide any fluoride to the City and were unable to estimate when supplies may again become available.

Fluoridation of Greensboro's water began in the 1960's after the Greensboro City Council voted to fluoridate the local water supply along with other communities nationwide. Greensboro adds about 1 part per million of fluoride, the standard recommended level.

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The City of Greensboro works in partnership with the community to build an increased quality of life for all residents by fostering an environment where inclusion, diversity, and trust are valued. As the seventh largest employer in Greensboro, the City has a dedicated professional staff of 2700 employees who maintain four core values of honesty, integrity, stewardship, and respect. The City of Greensboro is governed by a council-manager form of government where a mayor and eight council members act as the legislative body. For more information on the City of Greensboro, please visit us online at [www.greensboro-nc.gov](http://www.greensboro-nc.gov).

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